ONE

## Schristian Science Sentinel

"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH."-Jesus



INTERVIEW WITH AN ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE

OOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW?

ETTING THE STAGE FOR HEALING

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Founded in 1898 by Mary Baker Eddy, Author of the Christian Science Textbook, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures



Marca Registrada

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"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH." Jesus

# The journey home

LINDA L. WORTHINGTON

I was first introduced to Christian Science when a co-worker offered me a copy of Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy, who discovered and founded Christian Science. I took the book but stated emphatically that the only reason I would read a book on religion was to show my friend exactly how contradictory it was. Some time ago I had come to the conclusion that there was no God, because I had found no way to reconcile the God I learned of in my childhood with the evil in the world. Seeing no need or basis for morality, I had allowed my way of life to become hedonistic. Although I tried to read the book, I soon laid it aside as ridiculous.

In the next few months the emptiness of my way of life became increasingly and unmistakably apparent. My job did not work out; a trusted friend proved false; a nervous stomach

condition became acute; a beloved relative passed away—and finally one night the ceiling of my bedroom collapsed! In utter desperation, I picked up the discarded copy of *Science and Health* and read the entire chapter entitled "Creation." Like the prodigal son, I came to myself. I glimpsed the idea of God's unchanging perfection. He had never stopped being perfect, and He had not created an immoral child. My own misguided concept of God and His creation was the basic difficulty. As soon as I realized this, I was at peace for the first time in months.

Encouraged by the healing welcome of Christian Science, I reversed my path and began the journey home. Divine Love has met me along the way. Friendship, career, health, have been restored. I have regained my squandered spiritual wealth—

purity and integrity.

Centuries ago, Jesus presented true fulfillment; he taught the kingdom of God. The kingdom he shows us is no Shangri-La with golden pavements and pearly gates but a state of spiritual consciousness, in which man is perceived as the perfect child of the perfect Father-Mother God. Christ Jesus left explicit direction for anyone embarking upon a search for this fulfillment: "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." And Mrs. Eddy explains the spiritual import of this scriptural directive: "This kingdom of God 'is within you,"—is within reach of man's consciousness here, and the spiritual idea reveals it. In divine Science, man possesses this recognition of harmony consciously in proportion to his understanding of God." <sup>2</sup>

Each individual must develop a proper understanding of God and his relationship to Him. By conscientiously studying *Science and Health*, along with the Bible, we realize that God, divine Principle, is All-in-all and man reflects this absolute completeness. We strive to keep thought and action in strict accord with divine Mind. Bible Lessons found in the *Christian Science Quarterly* provide daily guidance and direction for the sincere seeker.

terly provide daily guidance and direction for the sincere seeker.

Unaware that completeness comes from keeping thought identified with Christly consciousness, many people are driven in the wrong direction. They search aimlessly down such

depressing dead ends as drugs, alcohol, promiscuous sex, or some other merely material road. A sense of hopelessness frequently overwhelms those involved in these tangled webs of mortal misconceptions. Sooner or later, as in my own experience, the emptiness of such a search becomes painfully apparent. Compassionately aware of the sinner's need for hope and encouragement, Christ Jesus illustrated with the parable of the prodigal son how even the most misguided searcher can reverse his path and regain his rightful place as a result of spiritual awakening. After squandering his inheritance, the prodigal was reduced to being a swineherd—considered an especially degrading job for a Jew of Jesus' day. The Bible tells us "he came to himself." <sup>3</sup> The severity of his circumstances forced him to admit that his search for pleasure and fulfillment in matter was a total failure. Humbly he resolved to return home.

Did his father reject him? Was he cold or indifferent? Hardly! The father welcomed him home with rejoicing and

Hardly! The father welcomed him home with rejoicing and restored him to full sonship. In an address to her Church, Mrs. Eddy sums up the healing welcome of this parable: "The present self-inflicted sufferings of mortals from sin, disease, and death should suffice so to awaken the sufferer from the mortal sense of sin and mind in matter as to cause him to return to the Father's house penitent and saved; yea, quickly to return to divine Love, the author and finisher of our faith, who so loves even the repentant prodigal—departed from his better self and struggling to return—as to meet the sad sinner on his way and to welcome him home." 4

Any sincere individual can begin the search for true fulfill-ment—the kingdom of God—right now. Mrs. Eddy devoted herself to spiritual searching. Christian Science is the outcome of her glorious search. Studying and practicing this Science, we recognize the kingdom of God within each individual because each individual is within the one divine Parent, Mind. This consciousness of our position as the beloved child of divine Love awaits all who follow the path revealed by this great, Godinspired woman, Mary Baker Eddy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Luke 17:20, 21; <sup>2</sup> Science and Health, p. 576; <sup>3</sup> Luke 15:17; <sup>4</sup> Message to The Mother Church for 1901, p. 17.

## When a Client Says Good-By AGENCY business is a million One day you're up, taking clients to three waiter as y you're up, taking clients to three as waiter as for a funches, patronizing salmon iolly as Nova Scotia smoked iaunty iolly as in general being very iaunty in general being very in general being very iaunty iolivation. you orde lunches, par smoked salmon for a swow orde line general being very jaunty in minimum accounts that will bill a minimum you talk on next year. You talk on next year. laughs and a million tears. The next day you get a letter from he client ou just your agency, he a presentation about 11 be allowed to make a competition with five other agencies in a competition along with five other agencies in a competition along with five other agencies. you y ll be allowed to make a presentation a competition with five other agency. to se let a new agency. hat he doesn't tell you, of course, is that his nanhaw has just hecome an account hat he doesn't tell you, of course, is that his accoman an apperman has just become Schleppert the nephew Gutzum. Waverly, oe in to get the executive with that agency is a shoe in to get the executive with that agency is a shoe in to get the executive with that agency is a shoe in to get the executive with that agency is a shoe in to get the executive with that agency is a shoe in the executive with that agency is a shoe in the executive with that agency is a shoe in the executive with the executive wi unve with Guitzum, Waverly, Schlepperman everly and that agency is a shoe-in to get the AFTER SHEDDING a few tears in private to the thinking about to mention the see and unched the be-decked enture the be-decked enture the trens, or thou and discrete the trens, or the trens and discrete the trens and t AFTER SHEDDING a few tears in private bunt. That's the public's perception of the advertising business and often it is not far off the advertising business and often it is not far off the mark There's another side of the business, too, and There's another side of the business, too, and we might as well use Jack Wyman as an example of the business, too, and we might as well use Jack Wyman as an example of the business, too, and the business, t day. the mark. Chronicle Publishing Co., 1978 of that.

# An interview:

w: with an advertising executive

by ROBERT L. GATES

The adjoining column from the business pages of the San Francisco Chronicle goes on to explain how an advertising agency in California lost a \$1.5 million account, 55 percent of its business, virtually overnight. Under such circumstances one might expect the agency to fold or at best to drastically reduce its staff to minimize losses. The Wyman Company did neither. It bounced back and turned what looked like a crippling blow into an impetus for significant and continuing growth. Before examining how this was worked out in Christian Science, let's see why Jack Wyman got into the advertising business in the first place.

In college I felt I wanted a career in advertising or broadcasting. One Sunday a substitute Sunday School teacher who was an agency account executive offered me an after-school job at no salary, and that was my start. Later, after serving on an aircraft carrier during World War II, I came home and landed my first

real advertising agency job.

But it wasn't long before I realized I needed to look elsewhere. As a lifelong Christian Scientist, I didn't want to be involved in the promotion of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or to-bacco. The only answer was to start my own agency. With so little experience and considerable immaturity this was a tremendous step. But I loved the advertising business and knew that my motives were right. So I launched forth.

My mother, who is also a Christian Scientist, opened a set of accountant's books for me at home. I was still single, and she agreed to help for a couple of months on that side of the busi-

ness, which I didn't know anything about. Then she came into it full time. And twenty-eight years later, she's still in it and is considered one of the better media buyers on the West Coast.

How did it go at the beginning?

Well, the first few years were fraught with problems of "Too young" and "What have you ever done for anybody?" and my own lack of confidence. I really had to learn by doing. I spent a good part of most days in Christian Science Reading Rooms, and I had wonderful help from a Christian Science practitioner. I'd sometimes go home at night pretty defeated, but by the next morning I'd be back on top and ready to go at it again, knocking on doors. Gradually a little business took hold. I'd make calls

during the day and do the work at night.

As a small staff was added, I'd find myself coming to the latter part of the month and would wake up in the middle of the night to face the fact we didn't have enough business to cover expenses. And I hadn't any notion where it would come from. Turning to God, I'd walk the floor endeavoring to get answers. These lines from a hymn were especially helpful in those days, and still are: "Day by day the manna fell:/O, to learn this lesson well." I would sing that hymn as I paced, realizing that I was turning to the same God that the early Israelites had turned to when they received manna from heaven. Along with that I kept thinking of the statement from the Bible, "Before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." <sup>2</sup>

I knew that the supply, the opportunity to serve, had to come from God and that it was present day by day, including right then! And that's how it worked out. Month after month, year after year, the little business gradually took hold, and a solid

staff of able people was built up.

A few years after beginning the business I took class instruction from an authorized teacher of Christian Science. I learned so much about the true sense of business. I accepted the fact that real business—real activity—comes from Principle. I felt that I was firmly supported in my motive to provide service to mankind. I realized that this was an unfolding concept that would continue to develop in its constructive application. To-day I still turn right back to that concept.

The Chronicle article talked about the big challenge of losing your largest account a little over a year ago. Tell us how you worked that out.

It often happens in the advertising business—and in many other businesses—that one account gobbles you up. I tried to see clearly that business, the opportunity to serve, came from God. It didn't come from this one client. I looked to God's law for the solution, and I had fine help from a Christian Science

practitioner.

I felt we couldn't do the thing that most advertising agencies do at such a time—slash the organization. If we dropped many key people, we wouldn't be able to carry on the business. It appeared we were trapped. You just don't go out and land a big account overnight. But recognizing, as we've consistently done, that everything is possible to God and maintaining a close-to-Him attitude, we decided to drop only two key people (and we replaced one of them within two months). Then we set out talking to prospective clients, most of them smaller companies.

This wasn't the result of a plan so much as it was the desire to open up every possible avenue. We'd look to God and find ourselves taking the right footsteps. Opportunities started coming to us on all sides. A rush of business followed. Throughout the entire year that we were replacing the lost account we stayed in the black. I call it the year of "the loaves and the fishes." <sup>3</sup> It was really out of our hands. We even opened a branch office in

Los Angeles that has become quite profitable.

I would think a Christian Scientist, because of his earnest listening for God's direction, would be ideally suited to the creative,

fresh-thinking type of work you do.

Well, I've found the advertising business a marvelous opportunity for me as a Christian Scientist. Our stock in trade is creativity. And one thing I learned a long time ago is that if I truly turn to the divine Mind for the answer to a problem—an advertising problem or whatever—the inspiration always comes. And it's important not to pursue the solution with the push of human will but rather realize where all useful concepts come from and that the wherewithal to support them comes right along with them.

How do you know when a particular approach is inspired by God and when it isn't? I find that if I start to pursue what I believe to be a sound concept and continue to listen for further unfoldment, then if a change of direction is needed, fine, I'm ready to follow. At the same time, we stand for what we believe in. This includes high ethical standards as we perceive them. I get the impression that alcohol flows pretty freely in the adver-

tising business. Has this caused you any particular problem? It has never been difficult for me to abstain from drinking. I never got started, and I've never had any desire to. On the other hand, I've had to overcome looking down at others who drink. At first I found this difficult, particularly in the Navy. But I learned to do it by refusing to accept the limited human view of man and by knowing that I could only be associated with the real, spiritual man, God's man. And gradually freedom came.

Over my business years this has not been a problem for me. I'm right with my clients. If they're drinking, I'm there with my grapefruit juice or soft drink—with them in a genuine feeling of camaraderie and business friendship—and I think they respect

that

The whole thing comes down to recognizing the pure basics of Christian Science—understanding the allness and perfection of God and man's unity with Him, and then applying this understanding to individual situations in order to show forth God's perfect qualities in our activity. By staying with that pure concept of God and my relationship to Him, I find that wonderful things happen. As a result my confidence has grown through the years. It's a great joy to live Christian Science in business, standing for Truth and continuing to gain a higher sense of business. To me, business involves giving evidence in a practical way of the God-reflected, productive activity that is one's very own as God's spiritual man.

I've found Mrs. Eddy's statement "Man is the expression of God's being" 4 a helpful basis from which to think this through.

The business person who understands God as divine Mind, and who knows that man is the expression of that Mind, has a scientific basis for expressing intelligence and creativity in making important marketing decisions. And you can apply other

synonyms for God in the same way. Life is expressed by one's vitality and endurance in active, enthusiastic sales work, for example; Truth by one's accuracy in accounting, budgeting, and cost control; Principle and Love by the honesty, trust, warmth, and joy one uses in every aspect of his business dealings. Claiming these divine truths, strongly holding to them, regardless of challenges, results in a better, more productive firm.

Would you give us a specific example of how taking a stand for Principle benefited both you and your client?

An associate who's a Christian Scientist and I had to present an advertising plan to a very important client. The client came up with an approach that we felt was misleading and that could even have meant trouble for his company. The client was adamant: This was the approach we had to take, and that was all there was to it.

We went back to the office struggling with the problem but knowing that the one Mind could reveal the way to handle this situation. We didn't want to preach to our client. So we worked out a new approach to the advertising—one we felt would be even more productive for the client—and decided that if he refused our plan and still insisted on his own, we would resign the account. And we were prepared to do it.

At the next meeting we told the executives of the client organization we had an answer to this particular advertising problem that we felt would be more effective for them than the advertising they had asked for. They listened to our plan and agreed immediately. We went out of the meeting really rejoicing, not only because we still had the account but also because we hadn't had to talk down to them or preach to them.

One statement of Mrs. Eddy's that has been so helpful in our business from the beginning is, "Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear." I know that our motive in founding our agency was based on divine Principle and that as we hold to that motive everything needed for the business will be provided.

Often we present our agency to fresh prospects, hoping to land a new account. We make our presentation and then go

back to the office. So we're not present during the ensuing discussions when decisions are being made. At such times Mrs. Eddy's simple statement "... divine Mind is its own interpreter" 6 has been so helpful. We don't have to be present when the client is discussing our agency. We don't have to worry about what other agencies are presenting. Being All, the divine Mind interprets itself through its own ideas. No one involved—the client, other agencies, or our own—is in reality separate from that Mind. All that is really going on is Mind expressing itself and approving its own ideas. This truth, when you understand it, rules out any confusion. There can't be a false sense of competition either. And the best solution to any problem is sure to be recognized.

<sup>1</sup> Christian Science Hymnal, No. 46; <sup>2</sup> Isa. 65:24; <sup>3</sup> See Luke 9:12-17; <sup>4</sup> Science and Health, p. 470; <sup>5</sup> ibid., p. 506; <sup>6</sup> ibid., p. 577.

# Setting the stage for healing

JOANNE SHRIVER LEEDOM

Should someone cry out, "Why am I not healed?" the answer

might be, "Have you truly set the stage for healing?"

In the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health*, Mrs. Eddy goes into great detail about spiritual healing. The first three pages of the chapter "Christian Science Practice" are devoted to the story of a woman who entered a Pharisee's house where Jesus was dining, washed his feet with her tears, and anointed them with oil. The woman's act showed the Saviour her deep repentance of past mistakes. His great understanding of God's love for man and of the illusionary nature of all sin enabled him to acknowledge her repentance with the benediction, "Thy sins are forgiven." <sup>1</sup>

If healing is delayed, this may signify a need to emulate this repentant woman. The qualities of her redeemed thought won for her freedom from sin.

Release from sin sets the stage for the healing of disease. Our expression of purity, humility, repentance, and self-immolation often helps to bring forth the healing we seek.

Of course, sin is not the only cause of suffering. But whatever the cause seems to be, we need to recognize God as the only real power governing us. This recognition of the great and only divine cause shuts out the effects of such false causes as ignorance, fear, or sin. That which is not cause has no actual power to produce effects, to injure or to make sick. Christian Science reassures us that neither sin nor sickness is the truth of God's creation. God created man in spiritual innocence as well as in health and wholeness.

We need to seek the Christ in order to utilize this healing power. The Bible story points out that in spite of her former way of life, the woman in the Bible cherished the purity and holiness represented by Christ Jesus and sought him out. Mrs. Eddy says, "Certainly there was encouragement in the mere fact that she was showing her affection for a man of undoubted goodness and purity, who has since been rightfully regarded as the best man that ever trod this planet." <sup>2</sup>

Those seeking spiritual healing should be willing to strive for greater purity and goodness. These qualities have to outweigh pride, selfishness, and personal gratification. As we recognize the unreality of all sin and realize our own spiritual innocence, we find it easier to lay aside the claim that sin can attach itself to us.

Having found Jesus, this woman did not let the occasion stop her from approaching him. To gain a healing, one must often reject the accepted order of the day and courageously approach those qualities that Christ Jesus represented. For some who have been healed, this has meant forsaking former religious beliefs as well as medical theories. It takes courage to be undaunted by world beliefs in materialism and not to be discour-

aged by friends or family who do not understand the full reli-

ance on Truth that is necessary for spiritual healing.

Striving for and seeking Truth, approaching it undaunted by circumstances, leads to the next steps in setting the stage for healing. The Bible records: "And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, and stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment." <sup>3</sup>

The tears of repentance signified the moral change in this woman's thought. Christian Science healing is regeneration, and without regeneration no one is really healed. In commenting on this story, Mrs. Eddy asks the question, "In the absence of other proofs, was her grief sufficient evidence to warrant the expectation of her repentance, reformation, and growth in

wisdom?" 4

Sometimes individuals yearn to repent and be done with sin, but they don't seem to know how to start. First, we need to recognize the sin as sin—that is, face the fact that sinful thinking or activities are not in conformity with God's laws. There is no way to overcome immorality until we face it as immorality.

Then we can face the fact that sin is of the carnal mind and not a part of our true selfhood as a child of the one Mind, God. Divine Love opens the way for complete healing. A realization of Love's support of our efforts brings us confidence that we can be rid of sin. The awakened love of good even precludes the possibility of sin attracting us. With this love of good comes the conviction that man's true status is spiritual. It is this recognition of the spiritual facts concerning man that truly eliminates sin.

In the Bible story under consideration there was more to this reformation than the repentance signified by the tears that washed the Master's feet. This woman also anointed his feet with oil. In the Glossary of the Christian Science textbook, Mrs. Eddy has given the following definition: "OIL. Consecration; charity; gentleness; prayer; heavenly inspiration." <sup>5</sup>

Consecration to Truth is another step each one needs to take

in order to prove the effectiveness of Truth in healing. Too often we may seek Truth only for its benefits and forget the need to consecrate our very lives to it.

A mother, who is a Christian Scientist, while seeking healing for a very ill child one night, realized the need of repentance and consecration to spiritual things in her life. A death, divorce, a broken home, had robbed existence of meaning for her. As she saw the futility of all materialism, she vowed to consecrate her life to serving God. The tears of repentance that flowed that night, as well as the surrender to God's way and the ensuing consecration it brought, indeed set the stage for the healing. The crisis passed, and the child was soon well.

The woman in the Bible narrative won for herself forgiveness of past mistakes. Regardless of where she had been in the past, her love for the Christ lifted her to a new view of living.

Surely everyone seeking healing in Christian Science needs to take this message of the healing of sin and apply it to his own life. If anyone asks, "Why have I not been healed?" let him set the stage for healing by emulating the woman who washed Jesus' feet and anointed them with oil. Let him strive for Truth, seek it, and approach it, regardless of circumstances. When the stage is thus set, healing is inevitable.

<sup>1</sup> Luke 7:48; <sup>2</sup> Science and Health, pp. 363-364; <sup>3</sup> Luke 7:37, 38; <sup>4</sup> Science and Health, p. 363; <sup>5</sup> ibid., p. 592.

## Next week in the Sentinel

Articles, three editorials, and testimonies in the June 26 Sentinel will focus on combating addictions—to drugs, smoking, alcohol, compulsive eating, gambling.

# Dominion over hate

FLINT LEWIS TOWNSEND

What if today at twelve o'clock noon, everyone, everywhere,

stopped hating? What a heaven on earth this would be!

All of us can take a beginning step in this direction. Each human being can exercise his own God-given dominion over hate. The Way-shower, Christ Jesus, said, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Then he continued, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." <sup>1</sup>

As we read the four Gospels, we can see that Jesus had a deep love for God, Spirit, and for man, whose true identity is the spiritual, perfect image of Spirit. This enabled him to restore the maimed to wholeness, awaken the sinner to goodness, heal the sick, and raise the dead to life and peace. Just before the crucifixion, our Master performed a loving act of healing. Judas came with soldiers to arrest Jesus. One of Jesus' disciples took a sword and cut off the right ear of the servant of the high priest. Of Jesus' act the Bible says, "He touched his ear, and healed him." <sup>2</sup> Doesn't this prove that love has dominion over hate?

How can we be more aware of Jesus' love for God and man and follow his example? We can start by actively expressing such spiritual qualities as purity, joy, love, and wisdom, and seeing these qualities expressed by others. Christian Science reveals that as we gain a spiritual conception of God and man, we awake to God's great love for all. The Bible assures us, "His eye seeth every precious thing." In reality, God, Spirit, is the only Mind—all Life, Truth, and Love, filling all space. Thus man, our true Christly selfhood, is the complete, perfect, spiritual idea of the heavenly Maker. Man knows this forever. God made

man good; He never made hate, sin, sickness, or death. Hence what God, Spirit, did not make cannot exist anywhere or as anything.

As we hold to the spiritual picture, it is easy to love man as the image of Spirit. I have had the opportunity to visit many countries. One day I thought: "How can I love each individual on earth? It would almost be impossible." But through the years, as I studied the Bible and *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, I found the answer. I realized that as I behold man not as a mortal but as God's reflection, this is really knowing man for what he is. He is holy. No form of animosity can ever touch this spiritual concept.

Hostility cannot grow like a weed in our thought when we rely on prayer and a spiritual understanding of God and man. This is truly spiritualizing thought. It is important to know that we cannot allow ourselves to hate even just a little bit if we desire to grow in the understanding of God and spiritual man.

In an article entitled "Love Your Enemies" Mrs. Eddy says:

In an article entitled "Love Your Enemies" Mrs. Eddy says: "In Christian Science, the law of Love rejoices the heart; and Love is Life and Truth. Whatever manifests aught else in its effects upon mankind, demonstrably is not Love. We should measure our love for God by our love for man; and our sense of Science will be measured by our obedience to God,—fulfilling the law of Love, doing good to all; imparting, so far as we reflect them, Truth, Life, and Love to all within the radius of our atmosphere of thought." <sup>4</sup>

Today we can go forward and reject any suggestion of hatred, since it is only a lie of the so-called carnal, mortal mind. Each of us can claim our God-given dominion and demonstrate spiritual reality. After all, the only real power and goodness anywhere are of God, Love. We can know with conviction, "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth." <sup>5</sup> The heavenly Father reigns forever. There is no opposite. As we strive to constantly love man as the reflection of Spirit, we are walking in the ascending footsteps of our Master.

<sup>1</sup> John 13:34, 35; <sup>2</sup> Luke 22:51; <sup>3</sup> Job 28:10; <sup>4</sup> Miscellaneous Writings, p. 12; <sup>5</sup> Rev. 19:6.

## Be sustained

IDA K. SHAKESPEARE

If man is upheld and sustained by God—and he is—there is no aspect of his being that can suffer from collapse. This is the spiritual fact. But muscles, ligaments, bones, the whole framework of the human body, claim to support us and keep us upright and mobile. They may also claim to fail us. Reliance on a physical framework, therefore, whether it is functioning well or poorly, involves accepting a limited, mortal concept about man, instead of seeing through the illusion to the perfect man of God's creating.

When mortal mind asserts that we suffer from some type of collapse or disability, it is speaking in and of its own dream. We need to hold persistently to the knowledge of reality: we are, in truth, the man God made. If accused of committing a crime we had not committed, we would continue to refute the accusation with certainty, no matter how often it was repeated or for how long. With equal certainty of our actual safety and innocence,

we can persist in refuting evidence of disability.

Because Christ Jesus beheld the perfection of man, he could prove the sustaining power of Mind over claims of weak, diseased, or malformed muscles, joints, and bones. For thirty-eight years the man at the pool of Bethesda had not walked, but he was able instantly to obey Jesus' commands, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." The woman who was bowed together and had suffered this "spirit of infirmity" for eighteen years was instantly "made straight, and glorified God." Again, in the synagogue Jesus healed the withered hand; it was restored to wholeness.

Jesus' disciple Peter healed the man who had been lame from his birth. "He took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength." 3 And at Lystra another cripple from birth obeyed Paul's command and stood upright on the feet that had never supported him before.4

When we consistently allow spiritual facts to sustain our thought, physical conditions respond to changed thought, since these conditions are thought made manifest. Sometimes while attaining clear, spiritual realization in the face of distressing material evidence, we may be assailed by fear, self-reproach, discouragement, and so on. But these disturbers can be routed by the understanding that they are only impersonal suggestions that would deny the truth we are affirming. They have to go down if we faithfully outpersist them. The Psalmist tells us, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." <sup>5</sup> And as the opening of the Preface to *Science and Health* Mrs. Eddy writes: "To those leaning on the sustaining infinite, to-day is big with blessings." <sup>6</sup>

Here is where we can lean in perfect confidence.

 $^1$  John 5:8;  $^2$  See Luke 13:11–13;  $^3$  Acts 3:7;  $^4$  See 14:8–10;  $^5$  Ps. 55:22;  $^6$  Science and Health, p. vii.

### God's child always

I always was what I am, ever will be what I was, and certainly am what I shall be: me.

Always.

SCOTT LAURIN SCHNEBERGER

### **Our Father**

Our Father, unfolding in each thought, makes clear men's brotherhood. The prayer our Master taught meets all our fretting needs with one dear answer— Father understood.

Our Father!
Meek utterance of love,
of childlike trust in good.
We turn from want to prove
Love's blessings ever near,
the bounty of one Parent's
father-motherhood.

Our Father!
Enlightened, we accept
the goodness that You are
in the goodness we reflect—
expressing, we possess
abundance, health, and joy:
Love is everywhere!

Our Father-Mother! Your allness fully known, our vagrant longings yield to satisfaction, newly born. You hold us in completeness, each child a shining witness. Fear and lack are healed!

Cynthia Häfeli-Wells

# I'm really doing something!

MARYL L. NIER

Is there any greater joy than to find out that wherever one is—office, bedroom, car, backyard—one can pray effectively? In James we read, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." How rewarding to know that one's thoughts can truly bless, help, and heal others! But how do we go about this kind of praying? What is present? What is going on?

The oneness and allness of good is going on. And we can know this. God, divine Mind, is forever speaking and acting, and God's reflection, man, is constantly hearing and active. This action is the only action going on anywhere and everywhere. Any contradiction of the above, any misapprehension or deviation from it, is but a supposition—an illusion without space

to fill, power to act, or mentality to occupy.

These truths can be so clearly seen, resolutely maintained, and joyfully accepted that healing is inevitable. Spiritual truths must bring results, whether instantaneously or eventually, because they evidence God's Word. Isaiah tells us, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Every truth known, every inspiration nurtured, every insight recognized and honored, is evidence of Mind's ability and availability to comfort mankind. Divine Principle is practical and provable every moment.

By emptying thought of worthless mortal debris we naturally allow room in consciousness for Soul's perfect expression. This is putting our weight into the proper scale, as Mrs. Eddy tells us to do in the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health:* "Your

influence for good depends upon the weight you throw into the

right scale." 3

Soon after I first realized that Christian Science actually works, an internal pain began to develop, reached frightening proportions, and impelled me to choose between placing myself in the hands of a physician or taking a firm, radical stand for the Christ Science, in which I had been raised.

Since I had not previously had any serious challenges, I hadn't been fully aware of the degree to which Christian Science could help me. Happily, however, I chose the latter position and called a Christian Science practitioner, who patiently answered my many questions, even sometimes in the middle of the night. The healing was not instantaneous, but within six weeks all vestige of pain had completely disappeared.

As I went about my daily business, whenever fear would scream at me, I would immediately mentally put myself within God's loving embrace and really allow Love to take over. What an immediate comfort and release from the fear! The Bible tells us, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear." 4

This statement was such a help.

The lessons learned during this time about safety, not only for myself but for my family and all I thought of, have never faded but have strengthened me in later challenges. This experience was a spiritual turning point—the beginning of a serious study and a much greater appreciation of the marvelous teachings of Christian Science.

It's a privilege to know this "pearl of great price" and to realize that each acknowledgment of Truth, each effort one makes to turn from the wrong to the right, is contributing in a very real way to helping mankind. This turning to God is obedience. As we follow the divine directives while striving to hear the "still small voice" of our one and only Mind, the rewards become apparent. We see that we are part of God's great design; that there is indeed a reason for our existence, a job for us to do.

Yes! We really are doing something!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> James 5:16; <sup>2</sup> Isa. 55:11; <sup>3</sup> Science and Health, p. 192; <sup>4</sup> I John 4:18.

All through my early years I regularly attended the Christian Science Sunday School. I enjoyed that one hour each week, where I met young people, like myself, and grown-ups who thought and talked in a way that made me feel good. In Sunday School we were taught that God loves all His children, and that He made all of them good. God has all power and He made man perfect and keeps him that way—this is God's way of loving man.

I learned that God expresses good qualities in all of us and I had to see this. In fact, I could have more fun if I appreciated the good in all my friends, instead of expecting them to be just

like me.

When I was thirteen, I went to a swimming party at a very large high school pool. There were dozens of teen-agers there, from churches all over the city. I didn't know any of them, and I was kind of shy. So I played by myself. Although I didn't know anything about swimming, I got into the shallow end of the pool

and started bouncing up and down across the water.

It was fun, but suddenly I went down underwater! I didn't even get a deep breath—it happened so fast. I had come to the place where all at once the water depth dropped to ten feet. It seemed as if I was all alone—suspended between the top and the bottom, and completely underwater. My eyes were closed, and I was tempted to be afraid because I couldn't swim. Instantly, I thought of the Lord's Prayer with its spiritual interpretation by Mrs. Eddy:

"Thy kingdom come.

Thy kingdom is come; Thou art ever-present.

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Enable us to know,—as in heaven, so on earth,—God is omnipotent, supreme." 1

These words reminded me that God is everywhere, and that His

love is all the power there is.

It seemed to me I was underwater for about a minute, and barely able to hold what little breath I had. Then I felt a hand pulling me up and leading me to the side of the pool. The hand belonged to a boy I had never met before, but I was surely glad to meet him then. His name was Steve, and he was my own age.

Although there had been a crowd of teen-agers gaily splashing all around me, Steve had noticed me and that I hadn't come up, and somehow he knew that I needed help. Steve had been listening to God. The divine Mind was making him alert, expressing wisdom and love. We became good friends. I also learned to swim about a year later, and in that same pool. My experience

helped me to trust God more and more as I grew up.

Often I remembered this event and gratefully considered it proof that God is real, that He is everywhere and always able to supply whatever is needed. The Bible tells us about God's protection: "Whither shall I flee from thy presence? . . . If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." <sup>2</sup>

God loves us. He is our best friend, and He is always with us. The people who are our friends are the expression of Love's presence with us—they are the evidence of our friendship with good. We, in turn, are the expression of Love's presence with them. In this way, we are all one with God, because He expresses His goodness in all of us. No matter what kind of a jam we get into, we are not alone—we always have Love's friendship with us.

My friend Steve didn't know it, but he was the answer to my prayer for help. Who knows? Each of us could be the answer to

someone's prayer!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Science and Health, pp. 16-17; <sup>2</sup> Ps. 139:7, 9, 10.

## Editorials



GEOFFREY J. BARRATT NAOMI PRICE Associate Editor NATHAN A. TALBOT Associate Editor

### Waking up from self-deception

Human beings seem to themselves to think with a personal mind, intelligent to a greater or lesser extent, sometimes more a master than a servant, and capable of self-delusion. Christian Science elucidates the fact that there is only one Mind and that all true consciousness is divine. Our progressive understanding of this point wakes us up from self-deception. This, in turn, im-

proves our health and relationships—our life in general.

It may never have struck us very forcibly that we are quite regularly self-deceived. Christian Science alerts us to the fact and it's a profound one—that if we think of ourselves as physical, finite, mortal, then we are self-deluded. But in those moments in which we are vividly conscious that God is present and All, and the creator of man, we are truly not deceived. No one digests the implications of such spiritual truths in a day. But if we are to heal and to be healed, to be useful and satisfied, then we need to be aware of the infinite gulf between being selffooled, on the one hand, and being truly awake on the other.

Moses, at one time in the process of his spiritual education, saw himself as having a leprous hand. The affliction was removed when he put his hand in his breast and then withdrew it. 1 Moses, thinking he had a very unpleasant disease, was momentarily self-mesmerized. But he didn't stay in that state. The momentum of his growing spiritual understanding carried him

forward beyond the mesmerism.

Should we fear that we, too, may be developing a frightening disease, we can do something about it, and should. One point is quite definite—that we are self-mesmerized. We are letting ourselves play host to fundamental beliefs of physicality, destructibility, mortality, suffering. But the Christ, the dynamic Truth, is always operating to stir or shake us awake. We can respond, and prove that the Christ is ever acting to show us our real selfhood and is eternally maintaining our real selfhood in the perfect likeness of our perfect Maker, God.

If we are weakly conceding that we can't lift our thought to the realization of what we really are, this is simply another phase of self-mesmerism at work. Even while we seem to be dreaming the dream of helplessness, our real being is continuing on fully re-

flecting the perfection of Spirit.

It's like being asleep in a small boat on a fast-flowing river. We may not be aware that we are still quickly moving ahead. But we are. And this is true regardless of how convinced we are in our dream that we are stuck in quicksand, have hit the rocks, are drowning, or whatever. Even while self-delusion may seem to be telling us that we are floundering in mortality, the scientific truth is we're still being borne along on the irresistible currents of spiritual being, and we can prove this in the healing and

regeneration of our present living.

In staying spiritually awake it is vital to more and more admit that the divine Mind—being infinite and omnipresent—is the only Mind of man, and our only true Mind. The way is harder if we unresistingly accept as ultimate the general belief that we have a little human mind that must be molded into a certain shape, pushed off in a certain direction, spiritually enlightened, dematerialized, and so on. Mary Baker Eddy states the situation plainly: "What renders both sin and sickness difficult of cure is, that the human mind is the sinner, disinclined to self-correction, and believing that the body can be sick independently of mortal mind and that the divine Mind has no jurisdiction over the body." <sup>2</sup> The human mind accepts correction to the exact degree it gives place to the divine Mind as the only Mind.

To be waking up from self-deception brings with it increasing confidence and fearlessness in living. Should things seem to go wrong—our body or our business, our family or our society—we'll play a healing part by refusing to make external circumstances (politicians, the state of the nation, and so on) the scapegoat. We'll take a look at our own sense of being. We'll refuse

to be mesmerized by the belief that we live in material conditions or a physical body beyond the government of divine Mind. An understanding of real consciousness and being puts us in a position of tremendous mastery. It gives us great leverage in helping correct whatever bad situations seem to face us. "You command the situation," Mrs. Eddy assures us, "if you understand that mortal existence is a state of self-deception and not the truth of being." <sup>3</sup>

A Christian Scientist could perhaps be defined as someone who is growing out of mortal self-deception through the spiritual and scientific understanding of real identity—someone who is recognizing that all true selfhood exists in divine Spirit and that it is spiritual and perfect there. So no one has ever actually existed in a state of self-deception. Living in the kingdom of heaven is realizing, without distortion, the absolute truth of being.

Geoffrey J. Barratt

<sup>1</sup> See Ex. 4:6, 7; <sup>2</sup> Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, p. 218; <sup>3</sup> ibid., p. 403.

### Looking for something new?

Followers of Christ Jesus, if they really put the Master's teaching into practice, will find their moments and their days becoming increasingly varied and interesting. Ideas that are innovative, productive, and satisfying will flood more and more into thought. Boundaries will recede and horizons widen in the expanding recognition and demonstration of man's infinite and eternally developing being as the expression of divine Life.

Jesus told his disciples, "I am come that they might have life,

Jesus told his disciples, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." His own life was rich in rewarding experience and in new views of God and His universe. He presented to the world the concept of man as God's son, the inheritor of all divine qualities, and he honored God as the plentiful Giver of all good to His creation, man.

Earlier in the Bible, God is metaphorically described as the inexhaustible "fountain of living waters." Now as then, we can know that God, infinite Mind, is invariably sending forth to us all a steady stream of fresh thoughts, impulses, and opportunities, new ideas and views of spiritual reality. And we can prove that the paralysis of routine thinking can never set in to hinder our progress, nor can the sterility of boredom and mental staleness waste away our joy. Inspiration is unceasing. No thief of mortal belief can deprive us of it or cause it to dry up.

In the human realm, as an interview beginning on page 964 of this issue illustrates, the quest for newness goes on constantly. For some people new projects are business necessities. These people are engaged in work that demands creativeness and originality. Some are employed to come up with new inventions and ways of developing old ones; to find fresh modes of expression in art and architecture; or to work out innovations in advertising, packaging, and other aspects of commercial design and presentation. Others depend for their paycheck on the ability to compose-to-order music, verse, and even humor. Always they must express originality and vitality or the paycheck will cease.

There are also those who yearn for newness in a more personal but often unrecognized way. They may suffer from long-term dissatisfaction and boredom, resulting in a depressing feeling of emptiness in performing routine tasks at work or in the home. Or from the degradation and desolation arising from alcoholism or drug addiction—conditions that may have originated in the attempt to find escape from ennui through oblivion or fantasy.

Then again, there is the restlessness of the child who has exhausted what he sees to be the potential of his toys and games

and asks, "Daddy, what shall I do now?"

In the case of each one of these people the basic problem is the craving for newness, and Christian Science insists that the remedy for them all is the same. It is to be found in the spiritual understanding of God, who declares Himself to be the one supreme, creative power, and is represented in the last book of the Bible as saying, "Behold, I make all things new." <sup>3</sup>

Among the grand statements on the vastness and sublimity of creation contained in her exegesis of the first chapter of Genesis, Mrs. Eddy says, "The universe of Spirit reflects the creative power of the divine Principle, or Life, which reproduces the mul-

titudinous forms of Mind and governs the multiplication of the compound idea man." And she continues farther on, "Creation is ever appearing, and must ever continue to appear from the nature of its inexhaustible source." 4

The divine Mind, the only creator, is bringing forth fresh ideas every moment from the depths of its own infinite selfhood. These ideas are invariably good, progressive, beautiful in form and expression, as well as useful and vitally interesting. They are not new to God, who knows all His creation from the beginning, but they are fresh and new to us as we become increasingly cognizant of Him and understand His infinitude and prolific creativity. It is an eternal adventure for us to watch for His ideas to appear in consciousness. Each moment we are enriched as we get wider, clearer views of God's universe.

A consequence of our recognizing the scientific fact that God is the only creator and that His ideas are continually developing in the vast universe of infinite Mind is the transformation that takes place in human thought and in our daily lives. The sterility and monotony that seemed so real give place to a better sense of abundance and newness. Inspiration is restored, and consciousness teems with fresh ideas. Where, in mortal thought, there was dullness and a lack of originality there will be eager enjoyment of new views and concepts, sparkling with the qualities of divine Love.

These more spiritual thoughts, reflecting a truer sense of God's abundant creativity, become increasingly active in the human mind in a sense of joy and fulfillment. They outshine the fear and depression imposed by a belief of lack and personal responsibility for creation. Fresh inspiration flows more freely to supply our need for originality and inventiveness in our work, and enjoyable, adventurous projects come to thought to occupy our own and our children's hours of play. Our search for newness is satisfied in the understanding that God is the source of infinite individuality. His ideas are never repetitious. They are always fresh and new.

NAOMI PRICE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> John 10:10; <sup>2</sup> Jer. 2:13; <sup>3</sup> Rev. 21:5; <sup>4</sup> Science and Health, p. 507.



Mary Baker Eddy, in her Miscellaneous Writings, tells a story that helps answer this question. And perhaps it relates to one's thoughts about joining The Mother Church, too.

"Admiral Coligny," she writes, "in the time of the French Huguenots, was converted to Protestantism through a stray copy of the Scriptures that fell into his hands. He replied to his wife, who urged him to come out and confess his faith, 'It is wise to count the cost of becoming a true Christian.' She answered him, 'It is wiser to count the cost of not becoming a true Christian.' ''

Members of The Mother Church are committed to deep love and gratitude for Christ, Truth. They strive to embody this love in their lives. And they welcome your joining them in their commitment, whenever you feel ready.

You can get an application form from any branch church clerk, Christian Science Reading Room or Christian Science practitioner. Or write to:

Clerk of The Mother Church The First Church of Christ, Scientist Christian Science Center Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115

# Testimonies of Christian Science Healing

With deepest gratitude for Christian Science I give this testimony. I was healed of a malignant disease that had caused extensive areas of my body to deteriorate. Though I never was tempted to seek a medical diagnosis, the symptoms of cancer

were evident, and I was tempted to be afraid at times.

Because of all the healings through Christian Science treatment I have had and witnessed, there was only one decision before me—that of relying completely on spiritual means for healing. There have been five generations of Christian Scientists in my family, so I met no family opposition to this decision. For this I hold continuing gratitude.

Even friends, who are not Scientists, but who were aware of the situation and said they felt only medical surgery could help,

respected my radical reliance on God.

I engaged a Christian Science practitioner to pray for me each day, and several times a month my husband drove me eighty miles to the nearest Christian Science nurse for necessary care. I found courage and strength inspired through this Bible verse (Isa. 41:10): "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

I saw clearly that there could be nothing for error to feed upon in the man of God. In an effort to be sure that I would take nothing into my consciousness for error to fasten on, I deter-

The statements made in these testimonies with regard to healings have been carefully verified. The original testimonies and their respective verifications are on file for reference with The Christian Science Publishing Society.—The Editors.

mined to learn all I could of God and His creation. Using the Bible, and Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy, along with her other writings, I studied many hours each day, building up my understanding of God by taking in ideas of redemption, regeneration, renewal, and other subjects pertinent to the healing. This took over a year, and when the symptoms threatened to alarm, my husband and I held tenaciously to the truths brought out in the weekly Bible Lesson in the Christian Science Quarterly. When it became impossible for me to attend church, we held our own services at home, on Sundays and Wednesdays, as outlined in the Manual of The Mother Church by Mrs. Eddy.

It seemed wise for me to have further care, so I made arrangements to stay at the Christian Science Benevolent Association at Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. The loving and spiritually inspired care I received from the nursing staff, along with the prayerful treatment of a practitioner in the area, established the truth God knows of His idea, man. I saw this had been the reality all along—God's allness and my spiritual perfection in His likeness. This was the law to the situation, and the course of

the disease was stopped.

New flesh filled in where there had been none before. In less than a month I returned home, and in a short time I was

completely healed.

As a direct result of my healing, two members of my immediate family joined The Mother Church; and a medical nurse left the medical field, joined The Mother Church, and took up Christian Science nursing.

This was a recent healing. In past years I have had many healings, including those of a congenital heart defect, diph-

theria, kidney stones, and the effects of accidents.

I was raised in a loving home where my mother was a Christian Science practitioner, and I attended Christian Science Sunday School till age twenty. Then I continued as an active church member with the blessing of class instruction. This is a foundation on which to build steadfast growth in Christian Science. All this has been a demonstration of what Mrs. Eddy says (Science and Health, p. 242): "The divine Science of man is

woven into one web of consistency without seam or rent. Mere speculation or superstition appropriates no part of the divine vesture, while inspiration restores every part of the Christly garment of righteousness."

(Mrs.) Jane Rutter Dougherty Surfside, Florida

1

After witnessing numerous healings in my family through the application of Christian Science, I can now humbly and gratefully submit my own healing. It came about through steadfast reliance on God and my growing understanding of His

tender, loving care for me.

One morning my daughter and I were having breakfast, and she noticed my mouth was distorted. I tried to drink but couldn't. We thought it was a condition of the teeth and gums and made an appointment with a dentist. With the help of my daughter, we kept the appointment. The dentist recommended that we see a specialist, but it was apparent that he was concerned about my physical condition, and he called a medical doctor from across the hall. Since my eyes were watering, he wanted him to examine this condition also. The doctor very kindly obliged, came in and looked at me, and said, "You had better see an eye specialist, or you could have serious trouble." He put a cover on the eye that was most troublesome, but used no medication. We left the office and decided to go home.

It was at this point that I told my daughter I would like to rely on God's loving help and have Christian Science treatment. When we were home, we all read the Bible and the writings of Mrs. Eddy, together with the Christian Science periodicals. We called a practitioner listed in *The Christian Science Journal*. Through the consecrated prayer of the practitioner and my study of Psalms 23, 27, and 91, and of *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, I was immediately free from fear of this most unsightly condition. In a short time there was absolutely no trace

of it. I was completely healed.

I am deeply grateful for the spiritual understanding I have

gained through this demonstration of God's all-presence and all-power as revealed through Christian Science. I am grateful for membership in The Mother Church and in a branch church, and for the joy of serving my branch church in a number of capacities.

Frank Effinger Webster Groves, Missouri

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When quite young, my brother and I were obliged to go to boarding school. An aunt lovingly took us into her home for vacations and introduced us to the Christian Science Sunday School. Although our attendance at Sunday School was spasmodic, the seed was sown, and I have had much to be grateful

for in the ensuing years.

About ten years ago, I was living in a tropical area. One of my legs became infected. People commented on the condition. Some advised me what caused it, and what I should do about it. I began to feel I was fighting not only a skin condition but the whole attitude of the community as well. The condition spread to my hands and feet. About the same time I realized I had developed an allergy that I had not had before. I had fallen into the trap of "mental quackery." Mrs. Eddy writes (Science and Health, p. 395), "It is mental quackery to make disease a reality—to hold it as something seen and felt—and then to attempt its cure through Mind." The physical symptoms had become alarming, so I contacted a Christian Science practitioner, who very kindly agreed to help me. Simultaneously I began to make a thorough study of the synonyms for God and in particular Life and Love. Mrs. Eddy says (ibid., p. 258), "We know no more of man as the true divine image and likeness, than we know of God." The condition was slow to yield as there were many errors of thought to correct. Several times the symptoms recurred, mostly on my hands, but each time they were less severe, and the attacks became less frequent, as I became less sensitive to the opinions of others. Finally the entire condition disappeared.

Some years ago I was asked to operate a radio at work. I was suffering from ear trouble at the time, and I was tempted to refuse. Instead, I took on this duty and held to the truth that hearing was a spiritual faculty. I tried to live more prayerfully, since prayer also involves listening. The ear trouble persisted for some weeks, but one day while I was operating the radio I felt a tickle in my ear, and within a few moments the abnormal condition was corrected. Since that time my ears have never again become blocked.

I am most grateful for the healing of burns, of the effects of insect bites, and of numerous undiagnosed ills. False traits of character have been overcome. I am thankful for every evidence of spiritual progress.

(Mrs.) Dalfrey I. Mason Ogies, Transvaal, Republic of South Africa



I would like to express deep gratitude for the many blessings I have received from the study and practice of Christian Science, which I have found to be a preventive as well as curative law.

Daily study of the Bible Lesson in the Christian Science Quarterly is so helpful. The lessons explain God and His government of

harmony in our lives, enabling us to "prove all things."

I recall a testimony my mother gave in a branch church testimony meeting—she was a sincere student of Christian Science for almost forty years. She said that it had been her desire for some time to give her children whatever could benefit them most. She said she saw Christian Science would prove to be of far greater value than any temporal gift, since it brings the complete understanding and knowledge of God. This gift surpasses anything else.

Mrs. Eddy unselfishly, and through the overcoming of so many obstacles, made the truths Christ Jesus demonstrated more real to us. *Science and Health* and her other writings help to give us an understanding of God's allness—to overcome the discords and diseases of mortal existence, exposing their unreality and nothingness. "God is All-in-all" (*Science and Health*, p. 113). We can see

there cannot be more than All. The Bible and Science and Health

set forth infinite blessings.

This statement helped me once when I fell (Science and Health, p. 192): "In Science, you can have no power opposed to God, and the physical senses must give up their false testimony." The pain was so severe, I feared a small bone in my left foot was broken. I was able to walk from the parking lot to my front door, a considerable distance, declaring with each step the presence of God. I held to promises in Psalm 138 (vv. 7 and 8): "Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me. The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands."

I prayed and spent the balance of the evening in an effort to handle the situation myself, but later I asked the help of a Christian Science practitioner. She turned my thought away from the pain, encouraged me to put my trust in God, and reminded me that God does not know accidents. Her firm understanding and comforting words helped me to overcome any doubts and fears. All sensation of pain vanished. I was able to retire in complete relief. By morning the foot was so improved that I went to work as usual. All swelling and discoloration were gone within two or three days.

On many occasions I have been blessed with divine protection

in physical and in business problems.

At a time that I was in need, I was unaware of the possibility of receiving benefits from a particular source, but I obediently followed a line of action I felt led to follow through inspiration. Within just a few weeks I received a substantial retroactive check from my deceased husband's social security benefits. I was surprised and very grateful. Immediately my thoughts turned to a favorite Bible passage (Isa. 65:24), "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." And from *Science and Health* (p. 151), "Every function of the real man is governed by the divine Mind."

This past year when I felt I should consider putting my house on the market for sale, I pondered a favorite article from the

Christian Science periodicals. Then in confidence and trust, after placing the ad, I left everything to the settlement of God's law. This relieved me of all sense of personal responsibility, removed any anxiety and fear, and brought peace, comfort, and the assurance of God's protecting care. From the Bible I read (II Chron. 20:15, 17): "The battle is not yours, but God's.... Set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord." The house was sold three weeks after it was advertised

I am grateful for a growing understanding of God's healing power. Christian Science has not failed me in any hour of need.

(Mrs.) MAXINE REETZ FORD Greenbelt, Maryland

2

When we more fully understand and actively express the first commandment (Ex. 20:3), "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," we can see the power of the Word and of the Christ, Truth, heal any discord and establish the harmony that is always truly there.

At one time a small blemish appeared on my leg. I dismissed it as being insignificant, but some days later I was presented with a frightening picture. The blemish had spread to other areas of the body, and there was much discomfort. I now began prayer to gain my freedom from this error. I declared the absolute authority of God and sought to better understand His omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience, bringing this understanding of

God's supremacy to bear on the erroneous condition.

I was able to continue my regular activities, including work as a university instructor. However, one evening the condition worsened. I prayed through most of the night, listening for God's guidance. His angel thoughts flooded my consciousness. I rejected all fear, and as I did, the consciousness of God, good, obliterated any temptation to ascribe a material cause for this physical discord. I held to the thought that God is the only cause and creator. It was enough to know that the discord was not caused by God, and therefore it was unreal. I read in Science and Health by Mrs. Eddy (p. 400), "When we remove disease by addressing the

disturbed mind, giving no heed to the body, we prove that thought alone creates the suffering." I refrained from thinking of myself as an individual mortal trying to make a physical disease go away. Rather, I yielded to the power of the Christ, Truth, which is ever asserting itself. With this I fell asleep.

The next morning the discomfort was gone; I felt at peace. Some symptoms remained. I prayed for the revelation of the spiritual truth needed to obliterate the remaining physical discord and worked scientifically for the uncovering of any hidden form of erroneous thinking. The following lines from the Bible came to my attention (II Cor. 10:5): "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." I asked myself, "Am I truly 'bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ'?" I began to recognize in myself thoughts of criticism, of feeling pressured, of reliance on materiality, that must be weeded out. I needed to do more than passively accept the Christ, Truth; I must actively express it.

I began to see the meaning of the two basic commandments of Christ Jesus (Matt. 22:37–39): "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." I then actively endeavored to express the qualities of God, of Life, Truth, and Love. I tried to make myself a transparency for Truth, to thus welcome in Christly thoughts and establish my concept of identity as dwelling in the divine consciousness, where perfect health is included. There was nothing left in my thought to which any

belief in pain or disease could attach itself.

The healing of the physical discord was complete, and the harmony and perfection of my true being as the reflection of God were evident. I am most grateful for this demonstration of the powerlessness of physical discord. I am even more grateful for the growth in understanding, the increased spiritual strength, and the larger insights into the immediacy of God's law to correct and heal anything not in harmony with His perfect creation.

(Miss) AVICE M. SAINT Oakland, California

### THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE TEXTBOOK

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy is the textbook of Christian Science. It is available in English, in English-Braille, and in Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. It may be obtained from any Christian Science Reading Room, or ordered directly from Miss Frances C. Carlson, Publisher's Agent, One Norway Street, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115.

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